

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BECKER et al

Atty. Ref.: 608-420; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. Unassigned

TC/A.U. Unassigned

Filed: February 25, 2004

Examiner: Unassigned

For: **ESTER SYNTHESIS**

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February 25, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: